World Alliance News Letter

VOL. XXIII, No. 2 FEBRUARY, 1947

HOLBROOK LIBRARY PACIFIC SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Whither Bound?

The *World Alliance News Letter* brings to its readers each month the story of interfaith efforts on behalf of world order. In this issue and those to follow, we hope to cast more light on issues that are obscure and problems that puzzle. Now as never before, the work of the Church Peace Union and World Alliance is important both at home and abroad. We shall redouble our efforts to work with all men and groups of good will on behalf of a peace that will be just and that will last. The most important effort in which we shall engage will be the World Conference of Religion for International Peace, described more in detail on page 4.

At the last meeting of the Trustees of the Church Peace Union, an important statement concerning world government was submitted by the committee on policy and was adopted unanimously. That statement gives us clear direction and indicates to our friends where we are headed in these coming months.

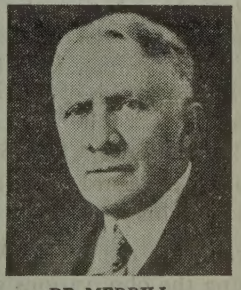
"The Church Peace Union shares the hope that a World Government can be ultimately formed. It notes, however, that the present movement is associated in the public mind with several groups which are actively promoting the movement through newspapers and pamphlets, and which strongly emphasize the weakness and inadequacy of the United Nations as to undermine confidence in it and in some instances directly attack it. It must be admitted that the United Nations does not have the power to deal effectively with some conditions that affect world peace. This fact was frankly faced by the World Conference in San Francisco in April, 1945; but the conclusion was forced upon the delegates that the constitution of the United Nations goes as far as the governments of the world, including our own, are willing to go under present conditions. Experience thus far has confirmed this conclusion. We believe that the needed additions should be sought by amendments from time to time as world sentiment is prepared to accept them, and that the process should be by evolution of the United Nations rather than by an immediate effort to 'transform' the United Nations and 'reconstitute' the General Assembly into a World Government, which, however attractive as an ideal, cannot be secured for an indefinite period. It is clear that all that can be done now, must be done through the United Nations. Whatever may become possible a decade or more hence, the present alternative is not between the United Nations and an ideally better organization, but between the United Nations and no world organization at all. Therefore, the Church Peace Union . . . recommends whole-hearted support of the United Nations as the only existing intergovernmental agency for the promotion of world peace."

Dr. Merrill Retires and Dr. Sockman Assumes Presidency

DR. SOCKMAN

At the annual meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Church Peace Union on January 23rd, the Rev. Dr. William Pierson Merrill, who has been annually re-elected president of the Church Peace Union for the last thirty years, stated that he could not accept the re-election which the Trustees had proffered him. In his stead the Trustees elected the Rev. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, pastor since 1917 of Christ Church (Methodist) at Park Avenue and 64th Street, New York City, nationally known radio preacher and author of many books.

The Trustees adopted a resolution honoring Dr. Merrill and recording "their high appreciation of his long and distinguished service as an officer of the Church Peace Union," to which he has given thirty-three years of service — three as vice-president and thirty as president. The resolution noted in part that "his prominence as a religious leader, his high conception of the mission of the Church Peace Union as an agency for promoting international friendship, his eloquent advocacy of the movement from pulpit and platform, and his unfailing devotion to his duties as President have won the gratitude and confidence of the Trustees. . . . The Trustees are happy to know that he will remain a member of the Board so that we shall continue to have the benefit of his wise counsel and fellowship."



DR. MERRILL

Items of Interest

Conference on the United Nations, February 8th

An all-day conference on the subject "The United Nations in 1947" will be held at the Essex Colonnades in the Essex House, 160 Central Park South in New York City on Saturday, February 8th. This public conference, sponsored by the Church Peace Union and the American Association for the United Nations, the World Alliance for International Friendship Through the Churches, and the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, will review the work of the United Nations and discuss the imperatives for the future. The registration fee for the all-day session will be $1.00 (including tax) and may be sent in advance to our offices at 70 Fifth Avenue. In the morning session from 10 to 12 o'clock, at which Prof. James T. Shotwell will preside, the speakers will be Mr. Clark M. Eichelberger, Mr. Andrew W. Cordier, Senator Warren R. Austin, and Prof. Quincy Wright. In the afternoon session, at which Dr. Carl Hermann Voss will preside, the speakers will be Mr. Leroy D. Stinebower, Dr. Isadore Lubin, Mr. Victor Chi-Tsai Hoo, Dr. Benjamin Gerig, Dr. Frederick Nolde, Mr. Carlyle Morgan, and Dr. Robert C. Dexter.

United Nations and Religion

"If the United Nations will avail itself of the world-wide resources of religion, a peaceful, harmonious world community can be created," it was asserted recently before a session of the Institute for Religious and Social Studies by Dr. Hans Simons, dean of the School of Politics, New School for Social Research, New York City. Dr. Simons expressed his hope that "the great representative bodies of all religious faiths will find a permanent place in the Economic and Social Council at the UN, to which they have as much claim as the World Federation of Trade Unions or other economic organizations." The UN Education, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), said Dr. Simons, cannot possibly "disregard the essential role which religion has to play in this program."

Friends of the World Alliance will be interested in reading the observations on this point made by Elisabeth Anthony Dexter (European representative of the Church Peace Union-World Alliance) in an article entitled "UNESCO: The Promotion of Peace," published in the January 20th issue of *Christianity and Crisis*. It is her observation "that the officials of UNESCO are not unmindful of the importance of religion." She implies that it is unjust to criticize UNESCO either from the Right or from the Left because the organization may be "idealistic and . . . not . . . based on dialectic materialism," as the Yugoslav observer maintained, or that "it is humanistic and . . . does not give sufficient recognition to Christianity," as certain church groups contend. Mrs. Dexter notes that "an organization which is trying to reach *all people* (less than half of whom are Christians) cannot align itself, even by implication, with any one faith or with any one interpretation of life. Surely there is the highest authority to believe that the attempt to care for children, to shed light in dark places, to increase brotherhood, and to establish peace is one that would commend itself to the Founder of Christianity."

Interchange of Preachers

One of the most fruitful activities in the development of understanding and friendship between the churches and churchmen of various countries has been the interchange of preachers. During that period of 25 years arrangements have been made for hundreds of British and American preachers to speak in the pulpits of the opposite country, and latterly this has developed to include interchanges with Canada and Australia. For six years the work was seriously interrupted by the war but is now being revived with signs of multiplied interest. The Provost of Portsmouth, the Rt. Rev. E. N. Porter Goff, is chairman of the British Committee and the Rev. Dr. John Sutherland Bonnell, Minister of the Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church, is chairman of the American Committee, which is formed by an equal number of representatives from the Church Peace Union, the Federal Council of Churches of Christ in America, and the World Alliance.

Engagements have been made for two distinguished British ministers, Dr. Goff, who comes under the auspices of both the British Council of Churches and the Church of England, and the Rev. Dr. Paul Rountree Clifford, of the famous West Ham Central Mission in London.

The American Committee has already given credentials to the Rev. Dr. Rex Stowers Clements, Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania; Rev. Dr. Edward H. Pruden, First Baptist Church, Washington, D. C.; and Prof. Geoffrey W. Stafford, Drew Theological Seminary, Madison, N. J.

Brotherhood Week — February 16th-23rd

American Brotherhood Week will be celebrated from February 16th-23rd, the week of Washington's Birthday. "Brotherhood—Pattern for Peace," is the theme of Brotherhood Week, sponsored by the National Conference of Christians and Jews, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York 18, N. Y. Widespread observances will be carried on throughout the country by meetings before varied community groups. The Honorable John G. Winant, former U. S. Ambassador to Great Britain, is the general chairman, and President Harry S. Truman is the

honorary chairman. In accepting the honorary chairmanship, President Truman said:

> Brotherhood is essential to the establishment and maintenance of peace. . . . Our own land can make no greater contribution to this troubled world than to establish brotherhood as the rule of life among all our citizens of every religion, race, or national origin. Brotherhood — live it, believe it, support it — must be the resolve that governs our relations to one another. We cannot hope to commend brotherhood abroad unless we practice it at home.
>
> Democracy rests upon brotherhood. Justice, amity, understanding, and cooperation among Protestants, Catholics, and Jews throughout our nation are cornerstones of democracy, even as they are the requirements of brotherhood. With them we can maintain our national unity and keep up the teamwork needed in peace as in war.

Race Relations Sunday — February 9th

This twenty-fifth anniversary of Race Relations Sunday marks the retirement of Dr. George E. Haines, who has been Executive Secretary of the Department of Race Relations of the Federal Council of Churches from 1922 to 1947. Dr. Haines has prepared a splendid series of programs for February 9th, copies of which may be secured by writing to the Department of Race Relations, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York 10. Send five cents for single copies of the packet or $1.25 for 100 copies.

The January issue of *Social Action* magazine, entitled "Toward Racial Integration," which may be secured for fifteen cents from the Council for Social Action of the Congregational Christian Churches, 289 Fourth Avenue, New York, is an excellent aid for discussion purposes and for preparation of sermons and addresses.

Report on Trusteeship

The offer of the United States to assume United Nations trusteeship over the former Japanese mandated islands in the Pacific was criticized recently as containing serious shortcomings and arousing the suspicions of neighboring powers in a report issued by the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace, research affiliate of the American Association for the United Nations. The document prepared by a committee on trusteeship, headed by Professor Arthur N. Holcombe of Harvard University, termed the American stand as an "apparent repudiation" of the Atlantic Charter. The Holcombe Committee urged the United States to declare now that all future agreements within the United Nations on armaments regulation, including inspection and control, would apply to the trust areas. The United States was urged not to recognize any claim of preferential economic advantages for American citizens in a particular territory. The Committee made clear that the American terms for trusteeship did possess certain important advantages, for the statement makes clear America's intention not to annex the territory, makes provisions for ultimate self-government, and acknowledges the right of the Trusteeship Council to exercise its authority in those islands. On the other hand the report criticized first, the "strategic considerations" which seem to demand special privileges for the American trusteeship; secondly, the reservations which close certain lesser areas to inspection by the United Nations without giving adequate reason; and thirdly, the stipulations which reserve to the United States a privileged economic position throughout the islands.

Prayer for the United Nations

World order, as a common religious concern, needs the support of all the spiritual and moral forces of mankind. It is this conviction, lying deep in the hearts of men and women throughout the world, which has impelled such organizations as the Laymen's Christian League to distribute 500,000 cards to be signed with the promise to pray daily for the United Nations, its constituent agencies, and their personnel. In similar fashion, the principals in charge of the Women's Day of World Prayer, on February 21st (the first day of Lent), have arranged intercessory prayer on behalf of the United Nations. With the guidance of Mrs. Harper Sibley, chairman of the United Council of Church Women, and Mrs. Welthy Honsinger Fisher, chairman of the program committee, a proposal has been adopted to print the Preamble to the United Nations Charter on all the programs and to ask for special prayers throughout the world. There will thus be an unending circle of prayer through the earth on behalf of the United Nations. The day will begin in the Fiji Islands, which is closest to the international dateline, and will close only a few miles away in the islands of Samoa and Tonga. Plans are now under way to broadcast the prayers coming from these far-off places. It is expected that the prayer in Tonga will come from the Queen of the Islands and in Samoa, from the home of Robert Louis Stevenson.

Dr. Robert Dexter in U.S.A.

After a year and a half in Europe on behalf of the Church Peace Union, Dr. Robert Dexter returned to the United States shortly before Christmas for a six weeks stay in this country. He attended the Annual Trustees Meeting of the Church Peace Union and reported on his activities in Europe. Dr. Dexter has attended a number of important meetings of the World Federation of United Nations Associations in which he is the chairman of the executive committee. After a brief speaking tour on the Eastern Seaboard and as far west as Denver, Colo., Dr. Dexter will return to Geneva, Switzerland where Mrs. Dexter has been in charge of activities of the World Alliance. The many friends of the Church Peace Union and World Alliance, wishing to extend good wishes to the Dexters, join with the Trustees in congratulating them on an excellent piece of work during these difficult days.

New Officers Elected and World Congress of Religion Announced

At its Annual Trustees' meeting, held on January 23rd at the Hotel Pennsylvania in New York City, the Church Peace Union elected new officers and announced plans for a World Congress of Religion to be held in the fall of 1948 in the United States.

When Dr. William Pierson Merrill, minister emeritus of the Brick Presbyterian Church in New York City and President of the Church Peace Union for thirty years, declined renomination, the trustees unanimously elected Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, minister of Christ Church (Methodist) in New York City and well-known radio preacher, as President of the Board of Trustees. The Board passed a resolution praising Dr. Merrill for his long and devoted service to the organization and congratulated him upon his recently celebrated 80th birthday. Dr. Merrill will continue as a Trustee.

Two new Trustees were chosen: Dr. Herbert C. F. Bell, professor of history at Wesleyan College, Middletown, Connecticut, and Mr. Henry Monsky, prominent attorney of Omaha, Nebraska, President of B'nai B'rith, and Co-chairman of the American Jewish Conference.

Plans were announced for a World Congress of Religion in support of the United Nations scheduled to be held in October, 1948 in the United States. Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, newly elected President of the Church Peace Union, will be chairman of the International Committee on Arrangements for the World Congress of Religion, which will bring together leaders of all faiths to form a world-wide alliance to support the United Nations in promoting peace and in support of measures for international security against aggressive war. The delegates to the Congress will be asked to accept the following four points as basic to the purpose and program of the Congress:

1) A belief in a Supreme Being.
2) A desire for fellowship, understanding, and the practice of human brotherhood.
3) Cooperation to help secure international justice, promote goodwill, and provide for all men everywhere the rights of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
4) Acceptance of the over-all purpose of the Congress to unite men and women of all religious faiths in support of the United Nations.

Invitations will immediately be sent to one thousand men and women selected from major religious faiths all over the world.

Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, General Secretary of the Church Peace Union, said: "there is no one human interest more nearly universal than that of religion, and no one threat greater to the security and welfare of the nations and their two billion inhabitants than the danger of recurring war. Now that the United Nations has been firmly established and has started its work successfully, it is important for religious minded men and women to help build a world-wide public opinion to serve as an enlightened and constructive instrument on behalf of peace. The very future of our civilization is bound up in the success of the United Nations. The Church Peace Union believes that in addition to mobilizing in its behalf the support of industry and agriculture, management and labor, educational and cultural institutions, the United Nations must have also the backing of the forces of goodwill inherent in religion. It is in this hope and in this determination that the World Congress of Religion will be called."

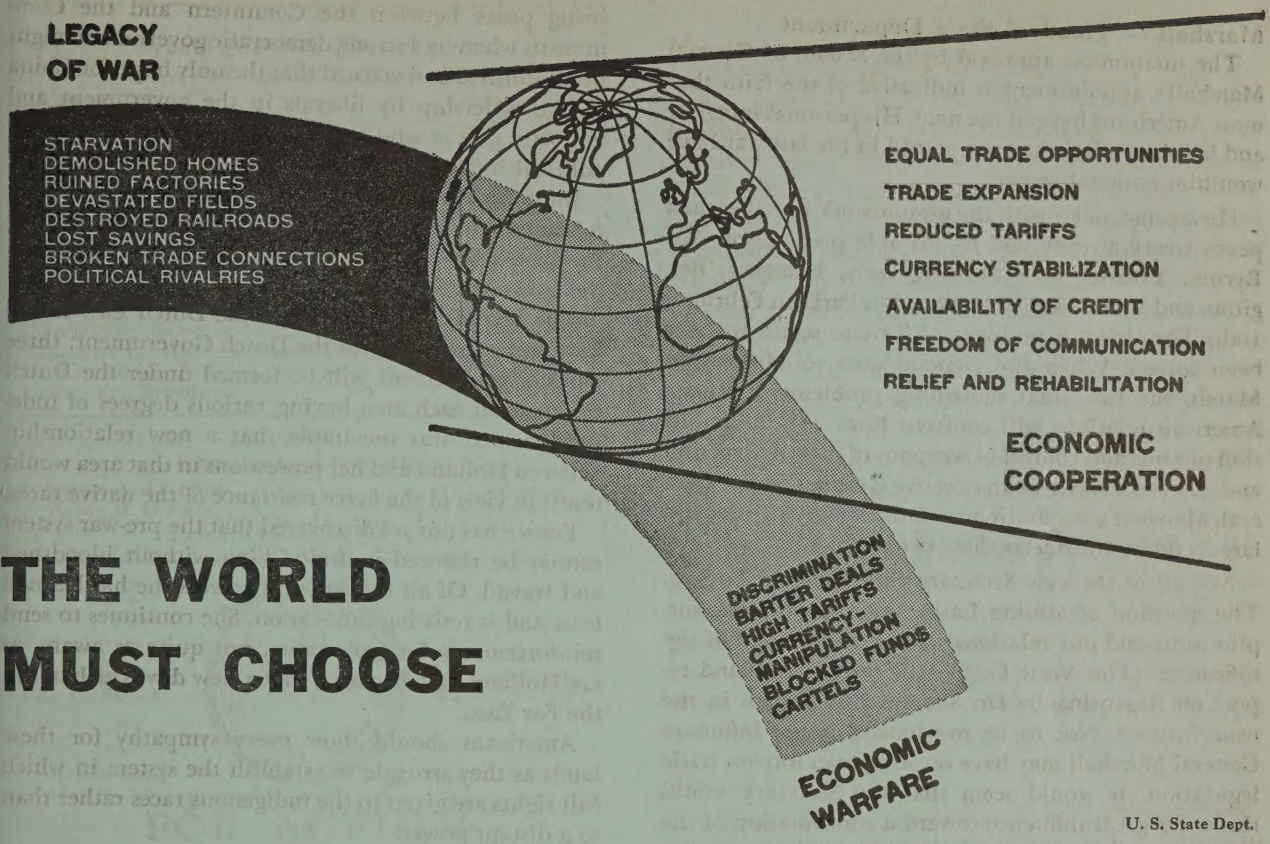
Statement on South African Natives

A recent statement by the executive committee of the Institute of Race Relations in the Union of South Africa has come from Johannesburg and reflects the attitude of leaders in both clergy and laity among liberal religionists, in sharp contrast to the attitude of such men as Premier Jan Christian Smuts. It is obvious from the statement that Premier Smuts did not present to the United Nations Assembly the view of all South African whites. This warning and appeal, couched in moderate language and characterized by discernment and restraint, is reported by the Worldover Press. It was issued by a body which has won wide respect for its sound work in behalf of better treatment of the native peoples and lays bare the wide gap between official protestations that all is well in the Union of South Africa, and the sober, non-partisan concern of citizens who have long studied national conditions.

"For some time past," says the report, "those of us who are in contact with the natives have observed in them a growing feeling of frustration. This feeling, common to educated and uneducated alike, found expression in the miners' strike and in the decision, taken in the midst of the strike, of the Native Representative Council to adjourn indefinitely. In our view these are serious symptoms of mounting discontent among the natives with the conditions under which they live."

"The natives are well aware," continues the Committee, "that these conditions have been condemned by all thoughtful opinion, and that many Europeans like ourselves regard them as morally indefensible. Time and again, and especially during the war, there has been a promise of better things to come, but such promises still await fulfilment in any substantial degree.

"The recent experience of the British in India, the Dutch in Java, and the French in Indo-China, shows that the non-European peoples of the world will not remain amenable to rational argument if we Europeans fail to make ample concessions to social justice. . . . In South Africa the period is drawing to a close in which honorable compromise is possible between the claims of various races that compose our community."



U. S. State Dept.

Support Reciprocal Trade Agreements

The Church Peace Union was represented by Dr. Henry A. Atkinson, General Secretary and Dr. John I. Knudson, head of the Department of Economics, Brooklyn Polytechnic Institute, at a hearing of the Committee for Reciprocity Information in Washington, D. C. on January 14th. They presented these views on the question of the continuation of Reciprocal Trade Agreements and the broadening of their scope. The conviction of the Church Peace Union was registered that we must have "one world" or we will have no world at all, that in this industrial age we depend for our security primarily on good economic relations among all the nations. This means that if we are to sell to others, others must be able to sell to us. "When goods do not cross international frontiers, armies will."

The United States should take immediate steps to reduce the barriers to trade and make effective the International Trade Organization under the aegis of the United Nations.

I. We firmly believe that in the interests of self-protection and in order to sell our goods, thus enabling us to maintain our standard of living, we need to consider ways and means by which we can buy and facilitate the transport and sale to us of goods made by our customers. In our opinion, this can best be accomplished through the extension of Reciprocal Trade Agreements. In order that we may go as far as possible in this direction, our government should also support the efforts to establish at the earliest possible time a comprehensive International Trade Organization.

II. A high standard of living for our own country cannot be maintained permanently in an impoverished world. Hungry and starving people—unable to make, sell, and buy goods—are a danger to the security of themselves, their neighbors and the world. Charity cannot continually level up accounts that can better be met on a basis of sound economics and the basic human right to adequate means of support through a job and fair wages. These rights depend upon good markets and fair treatment between the buying and selling nations. In other words, all nations must be at the same time producers, sellers, and buyers in the world's markets if we are to have security and prosperity.

III. The only sound basis for the reconstruction of our world is through the recognition that our responsibility goes farther than the mere feeding of the people who are hungry, cold, and discouraged now and need our help. They need more: the encouragement to start their lives anew so that all may have the opportunity to live "free from want and the fear of want."

IV. It is clear that the American people are willing to accept the principle that increasing foreign trade is not only desirable, but essential. They favor, we believe, an over-all increase in exports and imports on a reciprocal trade basis.

On the Political Front

Marshall — Head of State Department

The unanimous approval by the Senate of General Marshall's appointment is indicative of the faith that most Americans have in the man. His personal integrity and brilliant administrative record in the last war have won him national respect.

He assumes office with the groundwork for a German peace treaty already laid by his able predecessor, Mr. Byrnes. Treaties with Finland, Italy, Hungary, Belgium, and Rumania will be signed in Paris on February 10th. The delicate problem of Trieste seems to have been solved. When the General goes to Moscow in March, the two great remaining problems of Russo-American relations will confront him: (1) the reduction of arms and control of weapons of mass destruction and (2) the writing of an effective German treaty. General Marshall's reputation as a diplomat will depend largely on how he meets these two problems.

Not all of the new Secretary's work lies in Europe. The question of arming Latin-America with our surplus arms and our relations with Argentina are of significance. (The *News Letter* will carry a firsthand report on Argentina by Dr. Samuel Guy Inman in the near future.) Not to be overlooked is the influence General Marshall may have on American foreign trade legislation. It would seem that the Secretary would throw his great influence toward a continuation of the reciprocity system. Certainly a return to the protective tariff system of the 1920's will weaken the hand of our Secretary of State in building confidence.

There is much fear in the world that the United States is drifting away from the liberal foreign policy of Roosevelt and toward the narrow nationalism that marked the 1920's. While we have done much to strengthen the United Nations we have also at times pursued a selfish and short-sighted course. We prevented an effective international successor to UNRRA, we have failed to admit any significant tainly not aid world economic recovery. There has been some criticism of appointing a military man to head the State Department. It remains for the General to dispel by his actions the charge that future U.S. policy will be militaristic rather than cooperative.

The Far East in Ferment

The western world is learning that the postwar Asia will be vastly different from pre-war Asia. There will be no return to the old imperial days of exploitation. Today the surging tide of nationalism drives toward independence throughout the area. A leading American delegate at the United Nations Assembly noted recently that not until the Flushing Meadows meeting, had he fully understood the deep and bitter resentment held against the western world by colonial peoples.

Unity in China seems far off. General Marshall's report was completely candid in admitting failure to bring peace between the Comintern and the Communists whereby a strong democratic government might be established and warned that the only hope for China is the leadership by liberals in the government and minority parties who, as yet, have no power to exercise political influence.

India moves toward self-government but with tense relations between the Hindus and Moslems. Before long Burma expects her independence and is now discussing the next move in her conferences with Great Britain.

The revolutionary groups in the Dutch East Indies have come to terms with the Dutch Government; three types of government will be formed under the Dutch crown, with each area having various degrees of independence. It was inevitable that a new relationship between Holland and her possessions in that area would result in view of the fierce resistance of the native races.

France has not yet discovered that the pre-war system cannot be restored in Indo-China without bloodshed and travail. Of all the colonial powers she has learned least and is resisting innovation. She continues to send reinforcements for her armies, not quite as aware, as are Holland and England, that a new day is at hand in the Far East.

Americans should show every sympathy for these lands as they struggle to establish the system in which full rights are given to the indigenous races rather than to a distant power.

The Future of Germany

Once more as several years ago the major question is: "What shall we do with Germany?" No longer is this a parlor pastime of interested liberals and do-gooders. The issue is now paramount in the councils of the nations. A controversy has recently arisen over the suggestion of John Foster Dulles at a dinner of the National Publishers Association, that Germany be decentralized into federal states with a large measure of autonomy and that the industrial potential of Western Germany be integrated into the economic life of Western Europe. Mr. Dulles noted that the joint control would be exercised by France, Belgium, and Holland, and any Western European neighbors of Western Germany who are dependent on its industrial resources. He presented his plan as a positive program to meet what he termed the Soviet challenge to U. S. leadership in world affairs. Advocates of the policy praised it highly and welcomed it "after almost two years of shilly-shallying and delay." Critics of the policy condemned it and claimed that Dulles was "suffering from Red-tinted nightmares," noting that Dulles was calling for a Western bloc against the Soviet Union, a doctrine "which, if carried out, is sure to divide the world into two irreconcilable halves." Mr. Dulles had not answered this question: "How can we speak of economic unity in Europe when political unity has not yet been established?"

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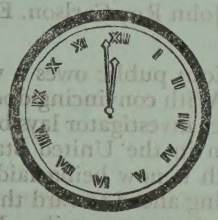

ZERO HOUR FOR ACTION

Reciprocal Trade Agreements

1. Use the content of page 5 in this issue as the basis for study in Sunday Schools, young peoples' organizations, men's clubs, women's associations, or church forums in programs devoted to the subject of the continuance of our trade agreements.
2. Post page 5 on your bulletin board under the heading of current issues of importance to world peace.
3. As an individual or on behalf of your study group, write to your Congressman and tell him your reasons for believing our trade agreements must be continued and augmented.
4. Arrange a conference in your church, school, or club for discussion of the whole subject of international trade and the International Trade Organization. Send for additional material from the U. S. Department of State in Washington, D. C. on which to base your program.
5. Show the film, "Made in the U.S.A.," a 16 mm. sound film available on loan from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, 405 West 117th Street, New York City, and the film strip, "Foreign Trade—It's Good Business," which can be purchased for $2.50 from Brandon Films, 1600 Broadway, New York.

The purpose of the Church Peace Union and World Alliance is to promote international friendship and peace and to mobilize into a conscious force for international goodwill, all men and women who share in the great hope of a world in which war will have been abolished.

Community Activities

Program of Cleveland Church

Ten years ago the Plymouth Church of Shaker Heights in Cleveland, Ohio, established its first peace group to study the problems involved in obtaining world order. Ten couples met at the home of the chairman. By 1947, ten such groups of twenty people each were holding monthly meetings in the homes of their members. Each group has a leader who serves for an entire year under the general chairman who is a member of the Church Board. During 1946, the groups met regularly to discuss such topics as: *What Shall We Do With Germany?, Revolution in China, Russian-American Relations, The Problem of the Argentine and Western Hemisphere Coherence, The Work of the UN, India in Crisis,* and *American Occupation of Japan.* In conjunction with the work of these peace groups, Dr. Miles H. Krumbine, minister of Plymouth Church, presents a current events lecture six times a year before large audiences. During the summer months, Dr. Krumbine outlines programs for the ensuing year's work of the peace groups. It is programs like this one which bear out the thesis that the church can be a powerful center of social guidance in our society.

Florida Forums

A group of eight speakers have been scheduled during January and February to address public forums in churches, synagogues, service clubs, colleges, and high schools in such cities as Jacksonville, Deland, Daytona Beach, West Palm Beach, Babson Park, St. Petersburg, and Tampa. The speakers and their subjects include: Mr. Whiting Williams, "The Labor Mess"; Mr. Joseph Dunner, "Soviet Russia Meets the West"; Dr. Phillips Osgood, "What Today's Youth Is Thinking"; Mrs. Martin Niemoeller, "Life Without Father"; Mr. Thomas H. D. Mahoney, "Current Problems of the UN"; Dr. Max Salvadori, "Italy's Struggle for Democracy"; Dr. Terence McCarthy, "The Inevitability of Depression"; Dr. Carl Hermann Voss, "America Faces the Future."

Raleigh Institutes

In the United Church (Congregational-Christian-Friends) of Raleigh, N. C., the 8th Annual Institute of Religion is now taking place. The institute, founded by the Rev. Allyn P. Robinson, Jr., former pastor of the Church, is now being carried on by the Rev. Frederick B. Eutsler, present minister. The theme for 1947 is "Improving Democracy Through Religion," and the speakers will deal with variations of the subject: Mrs. Harper Sibley, "Democracy and Religion"; Prof. Jerome Davis, "Democracy and Capital"; Pres. Homer P. Rainey, "Democracy and Education"; Dr. Paul Scherer, "Democracy and Freedom"; Dr. Clark H. Foreman, "Democracy and Minorities"; and Mr. Kermit Eby, "Democracy and Labor."

Suggested Reading and Films

Not So Wild a Dream by Eric Sevareid. Alfred A. Knopf, New York. $3.50.

Startlingly vivid autobiography of a sensitive, keenly observant news broadcaster and journalist. Memorable sections in the book include Mr. Sevareid's reflections on pre-war pacifism, especially in collegiate circles; on American "neutrality" before December 7, 1941; on fascism, both domestic and foreign; on China, betrayed by the Nationalists; on post-war social and political revolutions; on the 1945 San Francisco Conference and its uncertain auguries. An excellent book written with restraint.

Our Share of Night by Drew Middleton. The Viking Press, New York. $3.75.

A personal narrative of the war years in pellucid prose by a *New York Times* correspondent at present in Russia. Notable for its descriptions of Allied military campaign and political maneuvers in North Africa. Occasional sharply arresting sentences: *e.g.*, "Any tyranny, any injustice, concerns Americans." The two final chapters, pessimistic in tenor, are replete with profound overtones.

Underground to Palestine by I. F. Stone. Boni and Gaer, New York. $2.50.

A dramatic story of the movement to Palestine of the living remnant of European Jewry, told with simplicity and conviction by one who traveled the underground route from Europe to Haifa harbor. Reflects the immigrants' passionate joy because they are actually on trek to the Promised Land. "Nothing," says *PM's* Stone, "will stop the people I traveled with from rebuilding a great Jewish community in Palestine."

The Roosevelt I Knew by Frances Perkins. Viking Press, New York. $3.75.

A story of the spiritual and intellectual growth of man. Not, in a strict sense, an objective biography, but essentially true. Her revelation of Roosevelt's vanities and uncertainties make him a plausible, understandable person. Whatever his faults, one feels after a reading of this book that his great love for humanity made those weaknesses of little significance. Miss Perkins shows that Mrs. Roosevelt was, at her husband's bidding, a field agent and reporter for the President.

The Congress of Vienna by Harold Nicolson. Harcourt, Brace and Company. New York. $4.00.

Historians will appreciate the parallels implicit in this book between what is happening at the end of the Napoleonic wars. Put France in the place of Russia, fear of communism today in place of fear of the radicalism of the French Revolution, and England seeking a middle course, and you have duplicated the dilemma of the present.

Thunder Out of China by Theodore H. White and Annalee Jacoby. William Sloane Associates, New York. $3.50.

The authors have serious misgivings about the China policy of the State Department. They are unsparing in their criticism of the Nationalist Government with its deep-rooted corruption and its repressive measures, and are apprehensive lest the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. champion opposing groups in the struggle for domination, thus becoming involved directly in a civil war. By openly backing the Nationalists with arms and supplies, the United States may push into the Russian orbit the Communists, a national movement of protest against the oppression of the masses.

The World Council of Churches: Its Process of Formation. Published by the World Council of Churches, 297 Fourth Avenue, New York. $1.50.

A valuable brochure, presenting minutes and reports of the World Council's provisional committee in sessions of last February at Geneva, as well as constitutional documents of the organization. Helpful for groups studying ecumenical church and its message.

The Plotters by John Roy Carlson. E. P. Dutton, New York. $3.50.

The American public owes a vote of thanks to Mr. Carlson. With convincing documentation, this ace undercover investigator lays bare the danger of a new fascism in the United States, the groundwork of which is now being laid by Nazi sympathizers. Looking ahead toward the years when economic depression may strike, Mr. Carlson sees grave danger in the fact that the disillusioned, disgruntled veteran may become the tool of American fascists. This is not a book of despair. It is a warning.

4 Films for Unity. Man—One Family, a two-reel 16 mm. sound film with free discussion kit, produced by British Information Service and presented by Film Publishers along with three discussion slidefilms. Dr. Julian Huxley and Professor J. B. S. Haldane tell the story in the motion picture which, together with the slide films, provide an excellent introduction for discussion of group relations. The slide films can be purchased for $2.50 each from Film Publishers, Inc., 25 Broad Street, New York. The sound picture alone can be rented for $2.00 from British Information Service, 30 Rockefeller Plaza, New York.

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